

## HOW TO SUPPORT OUR TEAM

- 1. We will not mention or refer to our opponents.**  
Cheering implies positive vocal support for our team. We will not cheer about the other team or fans. We will not include any remarks about the other side. We will not single out individuals or personalize our cheers against the other team or fans.
- 2. Be positive for our team.**  
Cheer when our team scores, cheer when they take the floor after time outs or at the quarters, cheer when they make a good play, etc.
- 3. Treat the other side like we want to be treated....Let them shoot their free throws without our crowd noise or interference.** If our school has cheerleaders, we will follow their lead. Plan ahead and work with them to increase fan support and cheering.
- 4. Applaud our good fortune. We will not applaud the other teams misfortune.**  
No need to cheer when the other team has a bad pass or a violation such as traveling. Why applaud the other teams missed free throw? It is classier to say or do nothing. Remember, we cheer our made free throws and baskets. Old news: Air Ball, Air Ball – remember it could (and will) happen to us.
5. When a player is injured from either team it is respectful that the crowd wait patiently and quietly. **When the athlete seems OK it is expected that BOTH crowds and teams will give that player a strong ovation.**
- 6. We will not boo or shout at the referees. Ignore the calls of the officials.** They are impartial third parties sent by the League Office, not by our opponent. They will, from time to time, make calls that we will not agree with or understand. It is a part of sports and in SCHOOL SPORTS it is something we accept; knowing that we send the wrong message when we challenge the game officials. We will inform our adult fans of this concern.
7. Introductions: **Home team welcome our guests.** An appropriate welcome does not include booing, or asking whose she?, or turning our back, or reading the newspaper. We will have some class, we will even applaud and welcome the other team when they are introduced. This will make some heads spin!
8. National Anthem: People have died for the flag and country that we pause to honor before every athletic event in this nation. **We will remove our hats, stand and face the flag.** In most settings it is appropriate to sing along with the music. If we are not included to sing, be respectful and quiet. Typically incoming Freshmen need to know that we will not talk and play around during the national anthem.
9. The athletes and coaches are challenged to do their part to demonstrate good sportsmanship. **We will applaud displays of good sportsmanship seen from either team,** such as picking up an opponent who has fallen, or players congratulating an opponent's good play. We know our response will be about more frequent positive actions and some day this document will be obsolete.
- 10. After the game we will never, under any circumstances, take the floor or field.** This is the "players place." We will do the classy thing and remain in our seats while we applaud both teams and observe any trophy presentations.